Diversion of Welfare Funds

5204. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Central Government that a number of States have been diverting Welfare funds for other purposes ;

(b) if so, how many States have so far diverted these welfare funds ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision not to allot new funds to the States which have diverted these funds earlier ;

(d) whether any concrete report from all the State Governments has been obtained ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ;

(f) how many welfare funds are still unutilised by the States ; and

(g) whether in view of this any guidelines are being issued by the Central Government to the State Governments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (g) So far as schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Handicapped persons, and schemes under Social Defence are concerned, there is no information regarding misappropriation or diversion of funds at the State level. In so far as schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes are concerned, the State Governments/UT Administrations were addressed for the requisite information. In response, 12 States UTs viz. Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Delhi, Daman & Diu, Meghalaya, A&N Islands and Lakshadweep have so for responded denying any diversion or misappropriation of funds.

With a view to ensuring that funds meant for welfare schemes are utilised for the purpose for which they are intended, States/UTs have been advised to open separate Budget Head for outlay for the welfare of SCs and STs under Special Competent Plan and Tribal Sub-Plans Orders releasing Central grant to States also lay down some conditions. In respect of schemes under the Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment, this Ministry has requested the States/UTs to surrender the funds, which are lying unutilised with them for more than one year.

Drive against child beggars

5205. DR. BAPU KALDATE :

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an intensive drive was recently launched against the child beggars and the begging mafias in Delhi and other parts of the country ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the results achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A special drive by the Delhi Police has been launched for a month commencing from 1-4-1994 to round up child beggars in Delhi. All the 120 police stations are taking part in this drive. The child beggars rounded up in this drive are produced before the Juvenile Welfare Board which is a competent authority to decide their cases. Till 24-4-94, a total number of 625 child beggars were rounded up by police and produced before the Juvenile Welfare Board. Out of them 296 child beggars have already been discharged/restored to their parents/guardian and sent to Juvenile Homes and the cases of the rest of the Child Beggars are being processed by Probation Officers, for providing care, protection and other facilities in Observation Homes for Boys and Girls. Information from other parts of the country is being collected.

Handicapped employees in PSUs

5206. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question